

Preliminary Amendment

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/004159

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): An antipruritic composition for external use on skin, which contains a mucopolysaccharide or a derivative thereof in an amount of 0.5 to 20 weight %.

2. (original): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 1, wherein the mucopolysaccharide is at least one species selected from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, keratan sulfate, heparin, chitin and chitosan.

3. (currently amended): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 1-~~or 2~~,

wherein the mucopolysaccharide or the derivative thereof has an average polymerization degree of at least 5 and less than 1200.

4. (currently amended): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 1,~~2 or 3~~,

which further contains a liquid oil.

5. (currently amended): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 1,~~2,3 or 4~~,

which further contains urea.

6. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 2, wherein the mucopolysaccharide or the derivative thereof has an average polymerization degree of at least 5 and less than 1200.

7. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 2, which further contains a liquid oil.

8. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 3, which further contains a liquid oil.

9. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 2, which further contains urea.

10. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 3, which further contains urea.

11. (new): The antipruritic composition for external use on skin according to claim 4,
which further contains urea.